

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 SANAA 01296 151026Z

15

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O R 150930Z JUL 73 ZFF-4

FM AMEMBASSY SANAA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2412

AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE 0184

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI IMMEDIATE 0004

AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE 1166

INFO AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN 0140

AMEMBASSY LONDON 0182

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN 0050

S E C R E T SANA 1296

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, US, YE, SA, JO, UAE

SUBJ: EMERGENCY ARMS SUPPLY TO YAR

REF: STATE 128643

DEPARTMENT PASS USCINCEUR, SECDEF FOR ISA

1. I AM MOST GRATEFUL FOR DEPARTMENT'S PROMPT AND POSITIVE RESPONSE ON EMERGENCY ARMS ASSISTANCE TO YAR.

2. PRIMIN IS SICK IN BED BUT I HAVE APPOINTMENT WITH HIM FOR EARLY JULY 16. IN INTERIM I HAVE SEEN UAE AMBASSADOR SUWEIDI TO GIVE HIM FULL BACKGROUND ON YARG APPROACHES AND LIST OF EQUIPMENT USG WILLING CONSIDER FOR DELIVERY VIA JORDAN AND SAUDI ARABIA RESPECTIBELY. FYI: ON OTHER MATTERS WE HAVE FOUND SUWEIDI INTELLIGENT AND COOPERATIVE IF FULLY CLUED IN, DIFFIDEN AND EVEN OBSTRUCTIVE IF LEFT OUT OF THE PICTURE.

SUWEIDE WAS VERY PLEASED AT VIGOROUS US RESPONSE TO WHAT HE TERMED HIGHLY PRECARIOUS MILITARY SITUATION IN YEMEN. HE SPOKE OF THE IMPORTANCE OF US AND ABU DHABI

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PAGE 02 SANAA 01296 151026Z

WORKING TOGETHER TO ENABLE NORTH YEMEN DEFEND ITSELF

AGAINST THREAT FROM THE SOUTH AND DID NOT THINK HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD HAVE ANY DIFFICULTY OVER PAYMENT. AT HIS REQUEST, PROMISED GIVE HIM INFORMATION ON COSTS AS SOON AS RECEIVED, BUT EMPHASIZED THAT NEGOTIATIONS IN FINANCIAL ASPECTS WOULD HAVE TO BE DIRECTLY BETWEEN YARG AND UAE.

3. AMABAASDOR SUWEIDI MENTIONED ESSENTIALITY OF TRANSPORT HELICOPTERS TO CONVEY MATERIEL TO REMOTE BORDER POSITIONS. HE SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW COST OF AN APPROPRIATE MODEL. (WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT PROVIDING THIS WITH OTHER PRICE INFO.) UAE AMBASSADOR ALSO REFERRED TO YAR'S NEED FOR MILITARY COMMUNICATIONS WHICH AT PRESENT ARE VIRTUALLY NON-EXISTENT.

4. COMMENT: SUWEIDI POINTS ON TRANSPORT HELICOPTERS AND COMMUNICATIONS ARE VALID. FOR JIDDA: WE UNDERSTOOD THAT AT ONE TIME SULTAN WAS DISPOSED LEND SOME TRANSPORT HELICOPTERS WITH CREWS. IS THIS STILL A POSSIBILITY? WOULD ALSO BE GRATEFUL IF YOU COULD NUDGE SAG ON PROVISION OF PARTS THAT WERE MISSING FROM TRANSCEIVERS SENT TO YEMEN DURING LAST FALL'S BORDER WAR.

5. I EXPECT TO SEE JORDANIAN AMBASSADOR MUSTAFA LATER TODAY TO FILL HIM IN.

6. RE PARA 5 REFTTEL, JORDANIAN AMBASSADOR IS SENDING TWO FULLY QUALIFIED, NEWLY-ARRIVED OFFICERS FOR RECONNAISSANCE OF ENTIRE BORDER. COINCIDENTAL MEETING LATER TODAY WITH DEPUTY CIC HAMDI SHOULD ALSO PROVIDE FURTHER INFO.
CRAWFORD

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED ABOVE ADDRESSEES.

SECRET

NNN

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